

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4. Claims 1-4 are amended herein, claim 23 is added herein and claims 5-22 remain withdrawn. No new matter is presented.

Thus, claims 1-4 and 23 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claims 1, 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,818,970 (Ishikawa).

In Ishikawa, pixel data of a histogram is calculated and the maximum frequency in the histogram is supplied to an extraction color determination circuit (2006) for comparing input image information with the pixel data corresponding to the maximum frequency of the histogram in units of pixels (see, col. 20, lines 10-17). The extraction color determination circuit (2006) sets values based on whether or not a coincidence is found between the two pixels (see, col. 20, lines 17-25). That is, Ishikawa is limited to processing character/line image data of image information.

In contrast to Ishikawa, the present invention includes "inputting control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the moving image data" (see, each of the independent claims 1, 3 and 4). This enables dynamic control of the moving image data based on control information "externally-produced".

In the Office Action mailed September 27, 2004, the Examiner withdrew the rejections of claims 1-4 based on Ishikawa in response to Applicants argument and amendments filed on July 30, 2004. However, in the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner again relies on Ishikawa as teaching, "inputting control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the moving image data".

Applicants respectfully submit that processing character/line image data of image information in Ishikawa does not teach or suggest, "control information externally-produced and designating a processing for arbitrarily designated partial image data of the moving image data", recited in each of the independent claims 1, 3 and 4.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa.

Independent claim 2 recites, “an area information input unit inputting area information externally-produced and defined for each arbitrarily designated predetermined partial image unit of the digital moving image data inputted”. Then, compressed area information is added “as additional information for all pixels in each arbitrarily designated predetermined image unit of the digital moving image data inputted”.

Ishikawa does not teach or suggest, “an area information input unit inputting area information externally-produced and defined for each arbitrarily designated predetermined partial image unit of the digital moving image data inputted” where “compressed area information is added “as additional information for all pixels in each arbitrarily designated predetermined image unit of the digital moving image data”, as recited in independent claim 2.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 23 is added to recites, “receiving control information input by a user with respect to frames of the moving image data and compressing the received control information”, where “the compressed moving image data and the compressed control information are integrated to control processing of the moving image data”.

U.S. Patent No. 5,818,970 (Ishikawa), which the Examiner relies on for rejection in the Office Action mailed June 2, 2005, does not teach or suggest, “receiving control information input by a user... to control processing of the moving image data”, as recited in new claim 23.

Therefore, it is submitted that new claim 23 is patentably distinguishable over Ishikawa.

CONCLUSION:

Accordingly, claims 1-4 are amended herein, claim 23 is added herein and claims 5-22 remain withdrawn. Claims 1-4 and 23 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.


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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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